The Wandring young Gentlewoman's

GARLAND:

In five Parts.

How a 'Squire's Daughter near *London*, was
orced from home thro' her Father's Cruelty;
out thro' her tender Mother, ſhe was well E-
ducated, and Cloathed in rich Array; and when
he came to underſtanding, and found that ſhe
was hated by her Father, ſhe made a Robe of
Cat-Skins, with which ſhe wandred, carrying
her rich Attire and Jewels in a Bundle under
her Arm.

How one Evening ſhe came to a Knight's Door,
where ſhe begged for a Nights Lodging in the
Stable, which was granted her, *&c.*

A very comical and pleaſant Paſſage, which
paſſed between Cat-skin and the young 'Squire,
the Lady's Son.

In what manner he came to catch Cat-skin in
her rich Attire, and how he fell in Love with her,
and to get his Parents Conſent he went to Bed,
and feigned himſelf Sick, and made Cat-skin his
Nurſe; with an Account of their Marriage, *&c.*

An Account of the Death of her Mother and
Siſter, and how her Father, (who was worth
Thouſands) dreſſed like a Beggar, went to her
Gate, where he craved for Charity, *&c.*

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ed for F. Norris, at the Looking-glaſs on London

The Wandring Gentlewoman's Garland.

The Firſt Part. To the Tune of, *The Wandring Lady.*

YOu Fathers and Mothers and Children alſo,
Come draw near unto me, and you ſoon ſhall know
The ſence of my ditty, and I dare to ſay,
The like han't been printed this many a day.
This ſubject which to you I am to relate,
'Tis of a 'Squire, one of vaſt eſtate;
And the firſt dear infant his Wife did him bear,
It was a young daughter of beauty moſt fair;
He ſaid to his Wife, *Had this child been a Boy,*
It would pleaſe me better and increaſed my joy;
If the next be of that ſame ſort, I declare,
Of what I am poſſeſs'd now ſhe ſhall have no ſhare
In twelve months time after, this woman we hear,
Had another daughter of beauty moſt clear;
And when that her Husband knew 'twas a female,
In a bitter paſſion he preſently fell;
Saying, *Since this is of the ſame ſort as the firſt,*
In my habitation ſhe ſhall not be nurſt;
Nay, let it be ſent into the Country
For where I am truly, this child ſhall n't be.
With tears, his dear Wife, unto him thus did ſay,
Husband, be contented, I'll ſend her away;
Then into the Country with ſpeed it was ſend,
For to be brought up by one who was her friend.
Although that her Father he hated her ſo,
She good education on her did beſtow,
And with a gold locket, and robes of the beſt,
This ſlighted young female was commonly dreſt.
And when unto Stature this damſel was grown,
And [illegible] her father ſhe had no love ſhown; Sh

She cry'd, *Before I will lie under his frown,*
I'm fully reſolved to range the world round.

The Second Part.

But now mark, good People, the cream of the jeſt,
In what ſort of manner this creature was dreſs'd;
With cat-skins ſhe made her a robe, I declare,
The which for her covering ſhe daily did wear.
Her own rich attire and jewels beſide,
Then up in a bundle by her they was ty'd;
Then to ſeek her fortune ſhe wandred away,
And when ſhe had travel'd a cold winter's day;
In the evening-tide ſhe came to a town,
Whereat a Knight's door, ſhe then ſat her down
For to reſt her ſelf, who was tyer'd be ſure;
This noble Knight's lady ſhe came to the door,
And ſeeing this creature in ſuch ſort of dreſs,
This Lady unto her theſe words did expreſs,
From whence came this Girl, and what wilt thou have?
She cry'd, *A night's reſt in your ſtable I crave.*
The Lady ſaid to her, *I'll grant thy deſire,*
Come into the kitchin and ſtand by the fire;
Then ſhe thanked this Lady, and went in with haſte;
Where ſhe was gazed on from the biggeſt to the leaſt,
And being well warmed, her hunger being great,
They gave her a plate of good food for to eat,
And then to an out-houſe this creature was led,
Whereas ſhe with freſh ſtraw then made her a bed.
And when in the morning the day-light ſhe ſaw,
Her rich robes and jewels ſhe hid in the ſtraw;
And being very cold, ſhe then did retire,
To go to the kitchin and ſtand by the fire.
The Cook ſaid, *My Lady hath promiſed that thou*
Shalt be as a ſcullion for to wait on me.

And what ſaiſt thou girl, art willing to bide,
With all my heart truly, to him ſhe reply'd.
To work with her needle ſhe could very well,
And for raiſing of paſte, few could her excel,
She being ſo handy, the Cook's heart did win,
And there ſhe was called by the name of Cat-skin.

The Third Part.

THe Lady had a ſon both comely and tall,
Who oftentimes uſed for to be at a ball,
A Mile out of the town, and one evening-tide,
To ſee this ball acted away he did ride.
Cat-skin, ſaid to his Mother, *Madam, let me*
Go after your Son now this ball for to ſee;
With that in a paſſion, this Lady ſhe grew,
And ſtruck her with a ladle which broke it in two.
And being thus ſerved, ſhe then got away,
And with her rich garments herſelf did array;
Then to ſee this ball, ſhe with ſpeed did retire,
Where ſhe danced ſo rarely, that made all admire;
The ſport being done, this young 'Squire did ſay,
Young Lady where do you live, tell me, I pray;
Her anſwer was to him, *Sir, that will I tell,*
At the ſign of the broken ladle I dwell.
She being very nimble, got home firſt, 'tis ſaid,
And with her Cat-skin robes ſhe ſoon was array'd;
And into the kitchen again ſhe did go,
But where ſhe had been there, none of them did know.
Next night this young 'Squire himſelf to content,
To ſee this ball acted away then he went;
She ſaid, *Pray let me go this ball for to view,*
Then they ſtruck her with a ſkimmer and broke it in two.
Then out of Doors ſhe ran, full of heavineſs,
And with her rich garments herſelf ſoon did dreſs,

And

And to ſee this ball, ſhe ran away with ſpeed,
And to ſee her dancing all wonder'd indeed.
The ball being ended, this young 'Squire then,
Said, *Where is it you live*, ſhe anſwer'd again,
Sir, becauſe you ask me, account I will give,
At the ſign of the broken ſkimmer I live.
Being dark, then ſhe left him and homeward did hye,
And with her cat-skin Robe was dreſt preſently,
And into the kitchin amongſt them ſhe went,
But where ſhe had been, they were all innocent.
When the 'Squire came home and found cat-skin there,
e was in a maze, and began for to ſwear,
or two nights at this ball has been a Lady,
he ſweeteſt of beauties that ever I ſee;
he was the beſt dancer in all the whole place,
nd very much like our cat-skin in face,
ad ſhe not been dreſt to that coſtly degree,
ſhould have ſworn it had been cat-skin bodily.
ext night to ſee this ball, he did go once more,
hen ſhe asked his Mother to go as before,
nd having a baſon of water in hand,
e threw it on cat-skin, as I underſtand;
haking her wet ears out of doors ſhe did run,
d dreſſed herſelf when this thing ſhe had done;
o ſee this ball acted, ſhe then went her ways,
o ſee her fine dancing, all gave her the praiſe,
d having concluded, this young 'Squire he
id, *From whence did you come, pray Lady tell me,*
r anſwer was, *Sir, you ſhall ſoon know that ſame,*
om the Sign of the baſon of water I came.
en homewards ſhe hurried ſo faſt as could be,
his young 'Squire then was reſolved to ſee
hereto ſhe belong'd, then following Cat-skin,
o an old ſtraw-houſe he ſaw her creep in.
ſaid, *O brave Cat-skin, I find it is thee,*
s three nights together hath ſo charmed [illegible]

Thou art the ſweeteſt creature my eyes e're beheld,
With joy and content now my heart it is fill'd.
Thou art our Cook's ſcullion, but as I ſhall have life,
Grant me but thy love, I will make thee my wife;
And you ſhall have maids for to be at your call!
Sir, that cannot be, I have no portion at all.
Thy beauty is a portion, my joy and my dear,
I prize it far better than thouſands a year;
And to have my friends conſent, I have got a trick,
I'll go to my bed, and will feign myſelf ſick.
There's no one ſhall tend me but thee, I profeſs,
So one day or another in thy rich dreſs
Thou ſhalt be dreſſed, and if my parents come nigh,
I'll tell them 'tis for thee, that ſick I do lye.

The Fourth Part.

Having thus conſulted, this couple parted,
Next day this young 'Squire he took to his bed.
And when his dear Parents this thing both perceived,
For fear of his death they were heartily grieved;
To tend him they ſent for a nurſe preſently,
He ſaid, *None but Cat-skin, my nurſe ſhall be,*
His Parents ſaid, *No Son,* he ſaid, *But ſhe ſhall,*
Or elſe I'll have none to nurſe me at all.
His parents both wonder'd to hear him ſay thus,
That no one but Cat-skin muſt there be his nurſe;
So then his dear parents their ſon to content,
Up into his chamber poor Cat-skin they ſent:
Sweet cordials and other rich things was prepar'd,
Which between this couple was equally ſhar'd;
And when all alone, they in each others arms
Enjoy'd one another, in love's pleaſant charms.
At length on a time, poor Cat-skin, 'tis ſaid,
In her rich attire, ſhe then was array'd:

nd when that his Mother the chamber drew near,
hen much like a goddeſs, Cat-skin did appear;
Vhich cauſed her to ſtartle, and thus for to ſay,
Vhat young Lady is this, Son, tell me, I pray.
e ſaid, *Why 'tis Cat-skin, for whom ſick I lye,*
nd without I have her, with ſpeed I ſhall dye.
s Mother ran down then to call the old Knight,
Vo ran up to ſee this amazing great ſight;
e ſaid, *Is this Cat-skin, we held ſo in ſcorn,*
ne'er ſaw a finer dame, ſince I was born;
he old Knight ſaid to her, *I prithee tell me*
om whence thou didſt come, and of what family.
hen who was her parents, ſhe gave them to know,
d what was the cauſe of her wandring ſo,
he young 'Squire cry'd, *If you will ſave my life,*
ay grant this young creature ſhe may be my Wife.
s Father reply'd, *Thy life for to ſave,*
you are agreed, my conſent you ſhall have.
xt day, with great triumph and joy as we hear,
here was many coaches that came far and near;
hen much like a goddeſs, dreſt in rich array,
t-skin to the 'Squire, was married that day.
ſeveral days this great wedding did laſt,
here was many topping and gallant rich gueſt;
d for joy the bells rung all over the town,
d bottles of Canary roul'd merilly round.
hen Cat-skin was married, her fame for to raiſe,
ſee her modeſt carriage all gave her the praiſe;
us her charming beauty the 'Squire did win,
who lives ſo great now, as he and Cat-skin.

The Fifth Part.

Ow in the fifth part, I'll endeavour to ſhow
How things with her parents and ſiſter doth go;

Her Mother and Siſter of life are bereft,
And now all alone the old 'Squire is left;
And hearing his daughter was married ſo brave,
He ſaid, *In my nodd'l a fancy I have,*
Dreſt like a poor man, now a journey I'll make,
And ſee if ſhe on me ſome pitty will take;
Then dreſt like a beggar, he went to her gate,
Where ſtood his daughter, who appear'd very grea
He cry'd, *Noble Lady, a poor man I be,*
And I am now forced to crave your charity.
With a bluſh, ſhe asked him from whence that he ca
With that he then told her, and gave her his Name
She cry'd, *I am your daughter that you ſlighted ſo,*
Yet nevertheleſs, to you ſome kindneſs I'll ſhow:
Through mercy the Lord hath provided for me,
Pray Father come in and ſit down, then ſaid ſhe.
Then the beſt proviſion the houſe cou'd afford,
For to make him welcome was ſet on the board:
She ſaid, *You are welcome, feed hearty I pray,*
And if you are willing, with me you ſhall ſtay
So long as you live; then he made this reply,
I only am come now thy love for to try,
Through mercy, my child, I am rich and not poor,
I have gold and ſilver enough now in ſtore.
And for the love which at thy hands I have found,
For a portion I'll give thee ten thouſand pound.
So in few days after, as we underſtand,
This Man he went home and ſold off all his land,
And ten thouſand pounds to his Daughter did give,
And now altogether in love they do live.

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Licenſed according to Order.